

In the claims:

Claims 1-46 Canceled

47. (Currently amended) A method for forming a magnetic port in a first hollow body located within a patient, the first hollow body having a lumen, the method comprising steps of:

(a) forming an opening in a wall of the first hollow body, the opening extending into the lumen of the first hollow body;

(b) providing a first securing component comprising a magnetic material capable of producing a magnetic field and having an opening adapted to be placed in communication with the opening in the wall of the first hollow body; and

(c) coupling the first securing component to the first hollow body by a mechanical attachment to form a magnetic port in the first hollow body, the mechanical attachment having an expandable structure, introducing the expandable structure in a collapsed condition through the opening in the wall of the first hollow body and expanding the expandable structure to engage the wall of the first hollow body.

48. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein the first securing component is coupled to the first hollow body solely by a mechanical attachment.

49. (Currently amended) A The method of claim 47, further comprising the steps of for forming an anastomosis within a patient, the method comprising steps of:

(a) forming an opening in a wall of a first hollow body, the opening extending into the lumen of the first hollow body;

(b) providing a first securing component capable of producing a magnetic field and having an opening adapted to be placed in communication with the opening in the wall of the first hollow body;

(c) coupling the first securing component to the first hollow body by a mechanical attachment to form a magnetic port in the first hollow body, the mechanical attachment

having an expandable structure, introducing the expandable structure in a collapsed condition through the opening in the wall of the first hollow body and expanding the expandable structure to engage the wall of the first hollow body; and

(d) providing a second securing component capable of producing or being attracted by a magnetic field, joining the second securing component to a second hollow body, and magnetically coupling the second securing component to the magnetic port created according to step (c) to form an end-to-side anastomosis between the first and second hollow bodies.

50. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein the expandable structure comprises a plurality of arms that are generally coplanar for contacting the wall of the first hollow body when the arms are expanded.

51. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the arms are self-expanding.

52. (Currently amended) A The method of claim 47, further comprising the steps of for forming an anastomosis within a patient, the method comprising steps of:

(a) forming an opening in a wall of a first hollow body, the opening extending into the lumen of the first hollow body;

(b) providing a first securing component capable of producing a magnetic field and having an opening adapted to be placed in communication with the opening in the wall of the first hollow body;

(c) coupling the first securing component to the first hollow body by a mechanical attachment to form a magnetic port in the first hollow body, the mechanical attachment having an expandable structure, introducing the expandable structure in a collapsed condition through the opening in the wall of the first hollow body and expanding the expandable structure to engage the wall of the first hollow body; and

(d) forming an opening in a wall of a second hollow body, the opening extending into the lumen of the second hollow body;

(e) providing a second securing component capable of producing a magnetic field and having an opening adapted to be placed in communication with the opening in the wall of the second hollow body;

(f) coupling the second securing component to the second hollow body by a mechanical attachment to form a magnetic port in the second hollow body, the mechanical attachment having an expandable structure, introducing the expandable structure in a collapsed condition through the opening in the wall of the second hollow body and expanding the expandable structure to engage the wall of the second hollow body; and

(g) magnetically coupling the second securing component to the first securing component to form a side-to-side anastomosis between the first and second hollow bodies.

53. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the expandable structure of the first securing component comprises a plurality of arms that are generally coplanar for contacting the wall of the first hollow body when the arms are expanded and the expandable structure of the second securing component comprises a plurality of arms that are generally coplanar for contacting the wall of the second hollow body when the arms are expanded.

54. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein the arms are self-expanding.

55. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the first securing component has a laminated structure and includes a layer of biocompatible material to enhance sealing of the opening in the wall of the first hollow body.

56. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the second securing component has a laminated structure and includes a layer of biocompatible material to enhance sealing of the opening in the wall of the second hollow body.

57. (Currently amended) A The method of claim 47, further comprising the steps of for forming an anastomosis within a patient, the method comprising steps of:

(a) forming an opening in a wall of a first hollow body, the opening extending into the lumen of the first hollow body;

(b) providing a first securing component capable of producing a magnetic field and having an opening adapted to be placed in communication with the opening in the wall of the first hollow body;

(c) coupling the first securing component to the first hollow body by a mechanical attachment to form a magnetic port in the first hollow body, the mechanical attachment having an expandable structure, introducing the expandable structure in a collapsed condition through the opening in the wall of the first hollow body and expanding the expandable structure to engage the wall of the first hollow body; and

(d) providing a second securing component capable of producing a magnetic field, joining the second securing component to a second hollow body, and magnetically coupling the second securing component to the magnetic port created according to step (c) to form an end-to-side anastomosis between the first and second hollow bodies.

58. (Original) The method of claim 47, further comprising the steps of:

(d) providing a delivery device adapted to retain the expandable structure in a collapsed condition;

(e) delivering the expandable structure in a collapsed condition through the opening in the wall of the first hollow body; and

(f) releasing the expandable structure from the delivery device thereby allowing the expandable structure to expand.

59. (Original) The method of claim 58 wherein the delivery device includes a tip component adapted to cut through tissue.

60. (Original) A method of coupling a lumen of a first hollow body to a lumen of a second hollow body, the method comprising steps of:

(a) forming an opening in a wall of the first hollow body, the opening extending into the lumen of the first hollow body;

(b) providing a first coupling component capable of producing a magnetic field and having an opening adapted to be placed in communication with the opening in the wall of the first hollow body;

(c) attaching the first coupling component to the first hollow body by expanding a portion of the first coupling component within the lumen of the first hollow body to engage the wall of the first hollow body;

(d) forming an opening in a wall of a second hollow body, the opening extending into the lumen of the second hollow body;

(e) providing a second coupling component capable of producing a magnetic field and having an opening adapted to be placed in communication with the opening in the wall of the second hollow body;

(f) attaching the second coupling component to the second hollow body by expanding a portion of the second coupling component within the lumen of the second hollow body to engage the wall of the second hollow body; and

(g) magnetically coupling the first coupling component to the second coupling component to couple the lumen of the first hollow body to the lumen of the second hollow body.

61. (Original) The method of claim 60, wherein the first coupling component includes a plurality of arms that are generally coplanar for contacting the wall of the first hollow body when the arms are expanded.

62. (Original) The method of claim 61, wherein the arms of the first coupling component are self-expanding.

63. (Original) The method of claim 61, wherein the second coupling component includes a plurality of arms that are generally coplanar for contacting the wall of the second hollow body when the arms are expanded.

64. (Original) The method of claim 63, wherein the arms of the second coupling component are self-expanding.